

High Spots
in
The World Program
of
The American Board
1931-1932

The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions sends evangelists, teachers, physicians, nurses, social workers and others, to serve mankind in the spirit of Jesus, in China, Japan, India, Turkey, Bulgaria, Greece, Africa, Spain, Czechoslovakia, Micronesia, Mexico, and the Philippines.

A Brief Statement of A Great Work

In its 121st year
694 Missionaries
4,905 Nationals at work
17 Missions, 97 Stations, 1,916 Outstations
705 Native Churches, 101,959 Members, 285,011 Adherents
10 Colleges, 29 Theological and Training Schools, 1,422 Lower Schools

88,646 Students under Instruction of Christian Teachers
82 Hospitals and Dispensaries; 499,867 Treatments a Year
\$7,500,000 invested in Lands and Buildings
Contributions of Native Christians last year: \$388,074 for Christian work; \$785,811 for all purposes
Total Receipts for the Year: \$2,130,839

A FOREIGN PARISH OF 75,000,000 PEOPLE UNDER 12 FLAGS

The American Board as A Pioneer

Opened first American mission in India, 1813
Started mission work with Cherokee Indians (U. S. A.), 1817
First missionary body in primary education in Bombay, India
One of the first to begin Medical Work, Industrial Education, Social Service, Bible Translation, and Publications in India
A pioneer in modern Social Work in Japan
Opened first Woman's College in Japan
Opened first kindergarten training school in Japan
Opened first training school for nurses in mission fields
Published first Christian newspaper in Japan
Opened first school for native girls in South Africa
Pioneered in Social Service in the mining communities of South Africa
Leader among missions in transfer of administrative responsibility to Chinese bodies (1914)
Leader in missionary movement of protest against "gunboat protection," and against extra-territoriality in China
Willing to experiment in new Methods of Character-building Education in Turkey
A pioneer in advocating the registering of mission schools with the Chinese Government
Today, pioneering in educational approach to Moros (Moslems) in the Philippines
Colleges begun by the American Board, and now under independent Boards of Trustees:

ROBERT COLLEGE, Constantinople, Turkey
CONSTANTINOPLE COLLEGE, Constantinople, Turkey
INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE, Smyrna, Turkey
THE AMERICAN COLLEGE, Sofia, Bulgaria
ANATOLIA COLLEGE, Saloniki, Greece
JAFFNA COLLEGE, Jaffna, Ceylon
DOSHISHA UNIVERSITY, Kyoto, Japan
KOBE COLLEGE, Japan
YENCHING UNIVERSITY, Peiping, China (Union)
FUKIEN CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY, Foochow, China (Union)

As We Look Abroad

In Our Major Fields We See

INDIA with a new self-consciousness and sense of destiny, yet with enormous problems to face if she is to realize the future of her dreams.
CHINA distraught, resolute, patient — in an experimental mood. What will she choose to make of herself?
JAPAN sensing the necessity of putting vital religion at the heart of her program for youth.
AFRICA still a continent of endless variety — the oldest and the youngest civilizations seeking something better.
TURKEY examining Western civilization, trying to find something that will give her a new start.

In Other Areas Where We Are at Work

SPAIN stands at the threshold of hopeful experiments in democracy.
MEXICO at last seems to be on the highway toward real self-development.
CZECHOSLOVAKIA is unsurpassed in the virility and idealism of her youth.
BULGARIA is bearing burdens that would well-nigh dishearten a nation ten times her size.
SYRIA where devoted but stricken Armenian churches are showing great initiative.
GREECE "Great little Greece," which opened its heart to the refugees whom the rest of the world refused.
MICRONESIA, with a predominantly Christian population waking to a new sense of its corporate responsibility for the spread of the Gospel in its area.
PHILIPPINES, with their churches pressing forward toward self-support, and the warlike Moros eagerly turning to us for help.

A Christian World Outlook without Christian World Service—Impossible!

Among the motives that really justify our missionary enterprise, two are especially pertinent at this hour:

- I. The Gospel is still good news to men and women who realize that they have a fight for character on their hands. Jesus is so real, so meaningful, so masterful that they simply must share Him with all the world. That is the way missions began in the first century.
 - II. We have reached a time in the history of the world when not only our standards of living, but also our standards of life are seriously threatened. That is the pronounced trend of events today. And we must "do something about it." In sheer self-defence we must undertake the task of making Christ's spirit of good will, fair play, and reverence, a dominant force among the nations.
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We recognize that the Christian religion is one of several religions which have come down to modern folk across many centuries. To many sincere, enlightened people in our churches it is a serious question whether it is an honorable, not to say a Christlike thing, to seek to change the religion of an individual or nation. We frankly face this doubt, and in substance reply: Jesus came not to destroy but to fulfil the spiritual inheritance of every race. He came that all men might have life, and have it more abundantly. Every non-Christian religion has values which no fair-minded person, much less Our Lord, would overlook. The progressive missionary, therefore, must make it his purpose, not to proselyte or to encourage proselytism, but to enrich the life of the individual and of society by making Christ known. The fact of the matter is that non-Christian religions are disintegrating in the acid tests of modern life. With many nations it looks like Christ or nothing. Some people ask whether our Christian faith is standing the test. It is. We have in Christ an adequate, satisfying, spiritual interpretation of life, and we have in Him also the power to transform life under any circumstances.

Missions must become increasingly flexible in administration, catholic in spirit, community-minded in outreach, Christo-centric in faith.

The younger churches as well as the older churches in every land have the inalienable right to make their own mistakes. But unless the churches as a whole rise to the demands of a new age, they will prove to be of little consequence.

We would challenge you to stand with our missionaries and their national co-workers as they face the conditions of a new world era. Without our intelligent and loyal support they will fail. Together we shall help to realize God's purpose in our modern world.